## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

A bus power-supply device structured to supply power from a power-supply voltage of a node to a serial bus connected to the node through a physical layer and a plurality of connectors conductive to each other of the node, wherein

when none of a power-supply voltage of said node is supplied, a DC voltage is supplied from said serial bus to said physical layer, and

when said power-supply voltage is supplied, a path for supplying a DC voltage from said serial bus to said physical layer is cut off to supply a DC voltage from said power supply voltage to said physical layer.

The bus power-supply device as set forth in claim 1, comprising:

voltage detection means for detecting said powersupply voltage being supplied or not being supplied, and

selection means for supplying a DC voltage coming from said serial bus to said physical layer when said voltage detection means is yet to detect supply of a power-supply voltage and cutting off the path for supplying a DC voltage from the serial bus to said physical layer to supply a DC voltage from the power-supply voltage to said physical layer when said voltage detection means detects supply.

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The bus power-supply device as set forth in claim comprising

a comparator as said voltage detection means.

4. The bus power-supply device as set forth in claim2, comprising

as said selection means:

a first path for supplying power from said powersupply voltage to said physical layer, and

a second path for supplying power coming from said serial bus to said physical layer, wherein

when power is supplied from said power-supply voltage, said second path is cut off.

5. The bus power-supply device as set forth in claim

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a semiconductor switch as said selection means.

6. The bus power-supply device as set forth in claim 2, comprising

a comparator \as said voltage detection means.

7. The bus power-supply device as set forth in claim 2, comprising

a relay element as said voltage detection means and said selection means.

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The bus power-supply device as set forth in claim 1, comprising:

a power-supply circuit for converting said powersupply voltage into a DC voltage for said serial bus and outputting the DC voltage,

voltage conversion means for converting a DC voltage output from said power-supply circuit into a DC voltage for said physical layer,

voltage detection means for detecting said powersupply voltage being supplied or not being supplied to said power-supply circuit, and

selection means for supplying a DC voltage applied from said serial bus to said voltage conversion means when said power-supply voltage is not supplied to said power-supply circuit and cutting off a path for supplying a DC voltage from said serial bus to said voltage conversion means to supply an output of said power-supply circuit to said voltage conversion means when said power-supply voltage is supplied.

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9. The bus power-supply device as set forth in claim 8, comprising

as said selection means:

a first path for supplying power from said powersupply voltage to said physical layer, and

a second path for \supplying power coming from

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when power is supplied from said power-supply voltage, said second path is cut off.

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10. The bus power-supply device as set forth in claim 8, wherein

said voltage detection means detects said powersupply voltage being supplied or not being supplied by detecting an output voltage of said power-supply circuit.

11. The bus power-supply device as set forth in claim 8, wherein

said voltage detection means detects said powersupply voltage being supplied or not being supplied by detecting an output voltage of said power-supply circuit,

and which further comprises as said selection means:

a first path for supplying power from said powersupply voltage to said physical layer, and

a second path for supplying power coming from said serial bus to said physical layer, wherein

when power is supplied from said power-supply voltage, said second path is cut off.

12. The bus power-supply device as set forth in claim 8, comprising

as said selection means:

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a first path for supplying power from said powersupply voltage to said physical layer, and

a second path for supplying power coming from said serial bus to said physical layer, wherein

when power is supplied from said power-supply voltage, said second path is cut off, and

said selection means is structured by a semiconductor switch.

13. The bus power-supply device as set forth in claim 8, wherein

said voltage detection means detects said powersupply voltage being supplied or not being supplied by detecting an output voltage of said power-supply circuit, and

said selection means is structured by a semiconductor switch.

14. The bus power-supply device as set forth in claim 8, comprising

a comparator as said voltage detection means.

15. The bus power-supply device as set forth in claim 8, comprising

a relay element as said voltage detection means and said selection means.

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A node connected to a serial bus, comprising:

a plurality of connectors connected to the serial bus each having a power-supply terminal to which a DC voltage is applied from other nodes and a signal terminal to and from which a signal from other nodes is input and output,

a physical layer for outputting a signal input through a signal terminal of one connector to a signal terminal of the other connector, and

a bus power-supply device structured to supply power from a power-supply voltage to said physical layer and said serial bus, wherein

power-supply terminals of said plurality of connectors are rendered conductive to each other,

said bus power-supply device

supplies a DC voltage from the serial bus to said physical layer through said power-supply terminal when none of a power-supply voltage of said node is supplied, and

cuts off a path for supplying a DC voltage from said serial bus to said physical layer to supply a DC voltage from the power-supply voltage to said physical layer when said power-supply voltage is supplied.

The node as set forth in claim 16, wherein said bus power-supply device comprises:

voltage detection means for detecting said power-

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supply voltage being supplied or not being supplied, and selection means for supplying a DC voltage coming from said serial bus to said physical layer when said voltage detection means is yet to detect supply of a power-supply voltage and cutting off the path for supplying a DC voltage from the serial bus to said physical layer to supply a DC voltage from the power-supply voltage to said physical layer when said voltage detection means detects supply.

The node as set forth in claim 17, comprising as said selection means of said bus power-supply device:

a first path for supplying power from said powersupply voltage to said physical layer, and

a second path for supplying power coming from said serial bus to said physical layer, wherein

when power is supplied from said power-supply voltage, said second path is cut off.

19. The node as set forth in claim 16, wherein said bus power-supply device comprises:

a power-supply circuit for converting said powersupply voltage into a DC voltage for said serial bus and outputting the DC voltage,

voltage conversion means for converting a DC voltage output from said power-supply circuit into a DC

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voltage for said physical layer,

voltage detection means for detecting said powersupply voltage being supplied or not being supplied to said power-supply circuit, and

selection means for supplying a DC voltage applied from said serial bus to said voltage conversion means when said power-supply voltage is not supplied to said power-supply circuit and cutting off a path for supplying a DC voltage from said serial bus to said voltage conversion means to supply an output of said power-supply circuit to said voltage conversion means when said power-supply voltage is supplied.